job resarvation (1% each for visual speech, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped) in Group C and D posts under the Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings is provided for. To assist the employable handicapped Special Employment Exchanges and Special Cells are run through-out the country. For comprehensive rural rehabilitation services, 11 District Rehabilitation Centres are Functioning in 11 districts.

In addition, concessions like travel concession by train and air, duty exemption for specified goods for the use of the handicapped, income-tax exemption to visually handicapped persons, conveyance allownace to Central Government employees, loan under Differential Rates of Interest Scheme to enable handicapped persons to pursue gainful employment, reservation of dealership of agencies of public sector oil companies are also provided by the various Central Ministries.

(b) While respective Ministries providing facilities are nodal agencies in their respective areas, the Ministry of Welfare is the nodal Ministry for formulation of policies and programmes for the handicapped.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The question does not arise.

**Report of the Expert Committee set up to Identify Creamy Layer**

*173. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee set up by Government to identify the "Creamy Layer" among the backward classes for job reservations in pursuance of Supreme Court's orders, has submitted a detailed list of such classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps since taken in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) The Expert Committee set up by the Union Government to identify the 'Creamy Layer' among the Backward Classes for job reservation in pursuance of Supreme Court's orders was given the additional assignment of preparing the list of Other Backward Classes in accordance with the principles of commonality laid down in the OM of 13-8-1990. The list of OBCs prepared by the Expert Committee in respect of 14 States which had notified lists of OBC's for reservation in State services was received by the Government on 28-6-1993. The list is being examined by the Central Government.

**इण्डियन आयरन एंड स्टील कम्पनी (इस्को) का गैर-सरकारीकरण**

*174. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी :
श्री रामसिंह राठवा :

क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार इण्डियन आयरन एंड स्टील कंपनी को गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को सौंपने पर विचार कर रही है, यदि हां, तो उस गैर-सरकारी कंपनी का नाम क्या है जिसे सरकार उक्त कंपनी को सौंपने पर सहमत हो गयी है;

(ख) क्या इस कंपनी को गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को सौंपे जाने के कारण इस कंपनी में कार्यरत कर्मचारियों और अधिकारियों की नौकरी का भविष्य अन्धकारमय हो जायेगा और उनकी सेवाएं समाप्त कर दी जायेंगी;

(ग) इस संयंत्र की वर्तमान लागत कितनी है और यदि सरकार इसकी लागत में कमी करती है, तो भारतीय इस्पात उद्योग पर इसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा;

(घ) क्या सरकार को इस इस्पात संयंत्र को भारतीय इस्पात प्राधिकरण को सौंपने के लिये कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

**इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव)** : (क) इण्डियन आयरन एण्ड स्टील कम्पनी (इस्को) के आधुनिकीकरण और विस्तार में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी की सम्भावनाओं का पता लगाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा गठित विशेषज्ञों की समिति ने इस प्रयोजन के लिए भारतीय और विदेशी कम्पनियों से प्रस्ताव आमंत्रित किए थे । एक विदेशी कम्पनी, मेसर्स मितसुई एण्ड कम्पनी तथा दो भारतीय कम्पनियों मैसर्स मुकन्द लिमिटेड और मैसर्स उषा रैक्टिफायर कारपोरेशन (इण्डिया) लिमिटेड से अन्तिम रूप से बाध्यकर प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए थे । विशेषज्ञों की समिति की सिफारिशों पर सरकार विचार कर रही है ।

(ख) बाध्यकर प्रस्ताव आमंत्रित करने में निर्धारित एक पूर्वशर्त, जो प्रस्ताव देने वाली कम्पनियों को स्वीकार्य थी, यह थी कि 'इस्को' के सभी कर्मचारियों को उन स्वीकार्य शर्तों से काम पर नहीं रखा जाएगा जिनके वे इस समय पात्र हैं ।

(ग) 'इस्को' की नियत सम्पत्ति जिसमें इसके कार्यरत पूंजीगत कार्य शामिल नहीं हैं, कम्पनी के खातों के अनुसार लगभग 300 करोड़ रुपए आंकी गई है । इस लागत को कम करने का प्रश्न नहीं होता ।

(घ) और (ङ) इस्को पहले ही स्टील अथारिटी आफ इण्डिया लिमिटेड के पूर्णत: स्वामित्व में उसकी सहायक कम्पनी है।

**Recommendation by Commission on SC/ST**

*175. SHRI M. A. BABY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the statutory commission on SC/STs has submitted any annual report since 1991; and

(b) if so; what are the main recommendations and the details of action taken on them by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) The National Commission for SCs and STs which was accorded constitutional status w.e.f. 12-3-92 has not submitted any Annual Report so far.

(b) Question does not arise.

**Supply of contaminated water by MCD**

@*176. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a couple of children died after consuming contaminated water supplied by Municipal Corporation of Delhi during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any inquiries into this magic incident;

(d) if so, what are the results of the inquiry made;

(e) whether Government have taken any action against those who are responsible for this incident;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) what precautions have been taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) : (a) to (g) In the wake of certain press reports of death of children caused by drinking of alleged contaminated water in Savitri Nagar in South Delhi, on instructions from the Lt. Governor, Delhi, the Municipal Corporation conducted an inquiry and found that, of the 8 such deaths reported in Savitri Nagar, 3 could not be traced for want of correct addresses. The details of the other 5 deaths are as follows :—

(i) Urmila, a nine months old infant, died at home on 17-5-93, after continuous vomitting for seven to eight hours.

(ii) Rekha, aged ten months, died on 5-6-93 in Safdarjung Hospital after vomitting and loose motions. She was ill since 1-5-93 and was treated for the same at AIIMS, Safdarjung Hospital and at a number of private clinics. The exact cause of death is not known.

(iii) Komal, a two months old infant, died on 5-6-93 at home, her parents have reported that she could not pass urine.

(iv) Sonu, an eighteen months old child, died on 11-6-93 in Kalawati Saran Hospital due to gastro-enteritis with sapticimia and protein energy malnutrition.

(v) Sunita, aged four years, died at Safdarjung Hospital on 25-5-93 due to gastro-enteritis with severe dehydration.

The enquiry report attributes these deaths to general insanitary conditions, leaky individual water supply connections, use of illegal online boosters and unhygienic storage of water inside the houses. The said report has not fixed responsibility on any official in this regard.

Two other deaths of children on account of gastro-enteritis during the period from 1-1-93 to 7-7-93 have been reported by the Director of Health Services, Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi. The details are as follows :—

(i) Darpan, son of Sh. Sukhvinder Pal resident of Khazuri Pras, aged six months, died on 28-2-93 at I. D. Hospital.

(ii) Seema, daughter of Sh. Ashok, resident of Shastri Nagar, aged eleven months, died on 19-5-93 at AIIMS.

The exact cause of gastro-enteritis in these two cases is not known. These deaths cannot be attributed to municipal water supply, these being isolated cases.

The Municipal Corporation has reported that several measures have been taken to ensure that the water supply is potable. The quality of water is checked at every stage upto distribution at the consumer's end. All reservoirs, over-head tanks and dead-ends in the distribution system have been flushed and cleaned. A drive has been launched to remove illegal on-line boosters and notices have been issued to the consumers where service pipes pass through drains to raise these pipes.

@ Previously starred Question 136 Transferred from 4-8-93.